

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11

INR-10 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCA-01 SCSE-00

FMC-04 COA-02 DLOS-06 SSO-00 DRC-01 /060 W

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P R 060107Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL MERIDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 464

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS MERIDA 0161

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC

SUBJ: SHRIMP BOAT WARRIOR - BACKGROUND

MEXICO FOR CONGEN

1. AT ABOUT 1:00 AM. SEPT 27 SHRIMP BOAT WARRIOR WRECKED
REPORTEDLY AFTER BEING STUCK BY FREIGHTER, ABOUT 14 MILES NORTH
OF CAYO ARCAS IN GULF OF MEXICO. MASTER JACK MCGINN AND TWO MEXICAN
CREWMEN IDENTIFIED AS AUSENCIO MEDINA AND MIGUEL CEN MISSING.
AMERICAN CREWMEN HARRIS TODD AND IVAN TODOROV SURVIVED WITHOUT
SERIOUS INJURY AND RETURNED MIAMI BY AIR OCTOBER 3.

2. MEXICAN REAR ADMIRAL HECTOR RAMIREZ DE ARELLANO COMMANDING
FIFTH NAVAL ZONE CIUDAD DEL CARMEN, CAMPECHE, SENT MINESWEEPER
DM-13 TO PICK UP SURVIVORS FROM CAYO ARCAS WHEN HE LEARNED OF
INCIDENT ABOUT 1:00 PM. ON SEPTEMBER 27. DM-13 SEARCHED FOR
WRECKAGE AND OTHER SURVIVORS EIGHT HOURS ON SEPTEMBER 28,
FINDING ONLY OIL SLICKS AND PARTS OF REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT,
AND RETURNED TO CIUDAD DEL CARMEN MORNING SEPTEMBER 29 WITH
TODD AND TODOROV ON BOARD. MEXICAN NAVAL AND OTHER AUTHORITIES
SYMPATHETIC AND ASSISTED GREATLY EVERY ASPECT OF CASE.

3. NEW ORLEANS COAST GUARD SENT PLANE WHICH SEARCHED AREA OF
WRECK SEPTEMBER 29 AND 30. POST UNAWARE OF ANY FINDINGS.

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4. FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF EVENTS REPORTED BY SURVIVORS TODD AND TODOROV AND UNCONFIRMED BOTH MEN ASLEEP WHEN ACCIDENT HAPPENED. REMAINED AFLOAT BY ANGING ONTO FUEL TANK WHICH HAD BEEN ON WARRIORS DECK. IMMEDIATELY AFTER COLLISION OBSERVED FREIGHTER 350-400 FEET LONG, MARINE RED COLOR, CREW QUARTERS IN STERN, WHICH HAD STOPPED ABOUT 250 YARDS AWAY AND STAYED FOR FIVE MINUTES. ONLY LIGHT SHOWN WAS FAR ABOVE SURFACE WATER; NO ATTEMPT MADE TO SEARCH FOR SURVIVORS. FREIGHTER CIRCLED AND STEAMED INTO FLEET FISHING BOATS ABOUT TWO AND A HALF MILES AWAY, STOPPED AGAIN FOR FEW MINUTES, THEN SAILED TOWARDS WEST.

SURVIVORS PICKED UP BY FISHING BOAT PROGRESO OUT OF CAMPECHE ABOUT FIVE HOURS LATER AND TAKEN TO CAYO ARCAS. SURVIVORS REPORT CONVERSATION WITH FISHERMAN FROM FLEET WHICH WAS NEAR ACCIDENT, THROUGH INTERPRETER, IN WHICH CLAIM MADE FISHING BOATS FLASHED LIGHT ON FREIGHTER AND SAW LETTERS ""BAVRIE"" OR "BARRIER". FISHERMEN ALSO REPORTED HAVING SEEN WRECKAGE OF BOAT, DATE UNKNOWN.

5. BELIEVED ALL INTERESTED PARTIES INFORMED OF ESSENTIAL FACTS IN CASE. POST CONTACT IN US HAS BEEN HORACE W SCHAMAHL, INSURANCE UNDERWRITER OF WARRIOR, FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA TEL 305-522-0689.
ACKNEBOM ACTING

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